



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/816,319	04/01/2004	Matthew David Maddin	418268847US	9120

45979 7590 06/06/2008  
PERKINS COIE LLP/MSFT  
P. O. BOX 1247  
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247

EXAMINER
----------

MOUZON, LAJUANIA N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2153

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

06/06/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/816,319	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MADDIN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> La Juania N. Mouzon	<b>Art Unit</b> 2153	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 February 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Amendment filed 2/1/2008.  
Claims 19-38 are pending. Claims 1-18 are canceled. Claims 19-38 are new added.

### ***Drawings***

2. Applicant's amendments to the drawings filed on 2/1/2008, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the drawings have been withdrawn.

### ***Specification***

3. Applicant's amendments to the specification filed on 2/1/2008, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the specification have been withdrawn.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 19-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Geyer et al. (US PGPub 2005/016589).

6. In regards to claim 19, Geyer et al. discloses a method for sharing system network objects between computers, each system network object having multiple copies stored at different computers, comprising:

- a. providing a shared context (**¶0023 line(s) 11-16**), the shared context having a unique identifier (**fig. 2 #32, ¶0029 line(s) 10**), a number of associated system network objects (**fig. 2 #34, ¶0030 line(s) 1-2**), identifications of computers that store copies of each system network object (**¶0025 line(s) 8-11, ¶0027 line(s) 1-2, 5-11**), and security permissions indicating access rights of computers to the context and the system network objects (**fig. 2 #32, ¶0023 line(s) 12-15, ¶0029 line(s) 12**);
- b. receiving from a first computer a request to join the shared context identified by the unique identifier (**¶0026 line(s) 16-17, ¶0030 line(s) 14-19, ¶0035 line(s) 8-9, teach that a user can request to gain access (join) a shared object (chat session).**);
- c. in response to receiving from the first computer a request to join the shared context (**¶0026 line(s) 17-19**), determining whether the first computer has permission to join the shared context and if the first computer has permission to join the shared context (**¶0039 line(s) 7-10**), granting permission to the first computer to join the shared context (**¶0036 line(s) 11-13, ¶0039 line(s) 14-17**);  
and

- d. after the first computer has joined the shared context (**¶0026 line(s) 17-19**),
  - i. receiving from the first computer a request to modify a first system network object associated with the shared context (**¶0035 line(s) 6-8, ¶0039 line(s) 5-7**);
  - ii. in response to receiving from the first computer a request to modify a first system network object associated with the shared context, determining whether the first computer has permission to modify the first system network object and if the first computer has permission to modify the first system network object (**¶0039 line(s) 7-10**), granting permission to the first computer to modify the first system network object (**¶0036 line(s) 11-13, ¶0039 line(s) 14-17**);
  - iii. when the first computer has been granted permission to modify the first system network object, determining whether each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object (**¶0026 line(s) 1-4**) as indicated by the shared context is available to modify its copy (**¶0041 line(s) 7-17, 22-25, teach that the client waits before beginning modification till after the client response to the request (i.e. determining if all the computers are available for modification.)**);
  - iv. when it is determined that each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object is available to modify its copy, synchronizing

the first system network object by notifying each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object of the modification so that each computer can modify its copy of the first system network object (**¶0025 line(s) 8-11, ¶0039 line(s) 20-23**); and

v. when at least one computer that stores a copy of the first system network object is not available to modify its copy, not modifying any copies of the first system network object (**¶0041 line(s) 7-17, 22-25, teach that the client waits before beginning modification till after the client response to the request, inherently when the client is not available not updating/modifying any of the copies.**).

7. In regards to claims 20, 26 and 33 Geyer et al. discloses wherein the request to modify a first system network object includes a request to invoke a method of the first system network object (**¶0030 line(s) 14-17, ¶0035 line(s) 8-9**).

8. In regards to claims 21 and 27 Geyer et al. discloses wherein the first computer stores at least one copy of the first system network object (**¶0026 line(s) 1-4**).

9. In regards to claims 22, 28, and 35 Geyer et al. discloses wherein the first computer does not store a copy of the first system network object (**¶0026 line(s) 1-4, teach that the database is optional for storing the objects**).

10. In regards to claims 23, 29, and 26 Geyer et al. discloses notifying computers associated with the shared context when the first computer joins the shared context **(¶0026 line(s) 19-21).**

11. In regards to claim 24 Geyer et al. discloses, a computer-readable medium containing instructions for sharing system network objects between computers, each system network object having multiple copies stored at different computers, by a method comprising:

- e. providing a shared context **(¶0023 line(s) 11-16)**, the shared context having a number of associated system network objects **(fig. 2 #34, ¶0030 line(s) 1-2);**
- f. receiving from a first computer a request to join the shared context **(¶0026 line(s) 16-17, ¶0030 line(s) 14-19, ¶0035 line(s) 8-9, teach that a user can request to gain access (join) a shared object (chat session).);**
- g. determining whether the first computer has permission to join the shared context and if the first computer has permission to join the shared context **(¶0039 line(s) 7-10)**, granting permission to the first computer to join the shared context **(¶0036 line(s) 11-13, ¶0039 line(s) 14-17);** and
- h. after the first computer has joined the shared context **(¶0026 line(s) 17-19),**

vi. receiving from the first computer a request to modify a first system network object associated with the shared context (**¶0035 line(s) 6-8,**

**¶0039 line(s) 5-7);**

vii. determining whether the first computer has permission to modify the first system network object and if the first computer has permission to modify the first system network object (**¶0039 line(s) 7-10**), granting permission to the first computer to modify the first system network object

**(¶0036 line(s) 11-13, ¶0039 line(s) 14-17);**

viii. when the first computer has been granted permission to modify the first system network object, determining whether each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object (**¶0026 line(s) 1-4**) as

indicated by the shared context is available to modify its copy (**¶0041**

**line(s) 7-17, 22-25, teach that the client waits before beginning modification till after the client response to the request (i.e.**

**determining if all the computers are available for modification.).);**

ix. when it is determined that each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object is available to modify its copy, synchronizing the first system network object by notifying each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object of the modification so that each computer can modify its copy of the first system network object (**¶0025 line(s) 8-11, ¶0039 line(s) 20-23).**



12. In regards to claims 25 and 32 Geyer et al. discloses wherein the shared context further comprises identifications of computers that store copies of each system network object (**¶0025 line(s) 8-11, ¶0027 line(s) 1-2, 5-11**) and security permissions indicating access rights of computers to the context and the system network objects (**fig. 2 #32, ¶0023 line(s) 12-15, ¶0029 line(s) 12**).

13. In regards to claim 30 Geyer et al. discloses wherein when at least one computer that stores a copy of the first system network object is not available to modify its copy, none of the copies of the first system network object are modified (**¶0041 line(s) 7-17, 22-25, teach that the client waits before beginning modification till after the client response to the request, inherently when the client is not available not updating/modifying any of the copies.**).

14. In regards to claim 31 Geyer et al. discloses, a computer system for sharing system network objects between computers, each network object having multiple copies stored at different computers, the system comprising:

i. a component that provides a shared context (**¶0023 line(s) 11-16**), the shared context having a number of associated system network objects (**fig. 2 #34, ¶0030 line(s) 1-2**);

j. a component that receives from a first computer a request to join the shared context (**¶0026 line(s) 16-17, ¶0030 line(s) 14-19, ¶0035 line(s) 8-9, teach that a user can request to gain access (join) a shared object (chat session).**);

- k. a component that determines whether the first computer has permission to join the shared context and if the first computer has permission to join the shared context (**¶0039 line(s) 7-10**), granting permission to the first computer to join the shared context (**¶0036 line(s) 11-13, ¶0039 line(s) 14-17**);
  - l. a component that, after the first computer has joined the shared context (**¶0026 line(s) 17-19**),
    - x. receiving from the first computer a request to modify a first system network object associated with the shared context (**¶0035 line(s) 6-8, ¶0039 line(s) 5-7**); and
    - xi. determines whether the first computer has permission to access the first system network object and if the first computer has permission to access the first system network object, grants permission to the first computer to access the first system network object (**¶0032 line(s) 1-6, ¶0039 line(s) 7-10**); and
  - m. a component that synchronizes the copies of the first system network object by sending notification to each computer that stores a copy of the first network object (**¶0025 line(s) 8-11, ¶0039 line(s) 20-23**).
15. In regards to claim 34 Geyer et al. discloses a component that associates at least one system network object stored on the first computer with the shared context when the first computer joins the shared context (**¶0029 line(s) 4-12**).

16. In regards to claim 37 Geyer et al. discloses wherein the request to access a first system network object includes a request to modify the first system network object

**(¶0035 line(s) 6-8, ¶0039 line(s) 5-7).**

17. In regards to claim 38 Geyer et al. discloses wherein the component that synchronizes further comprises:

n. a component that after the first computer has been granted permission to modify the first system network object, determining whether each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object (**¶0026 line(s) 1-4**) as indicated by the shared context is available to modify its copy (**¶0041 line(s) 7-17, 22-25, teach that the client waits before beginning modification till after the client response to the request (i.e. determining if all the computers are available for modification.);** and

o. a component that when it is determined that each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object is available to modify its copy synchronizes the first system network object by notifying each computer that stores a copy of the first system network object of the modification so that each computer can modify its copy of the first system network object (**¶0025 line(s) 8-11, ¶0039 line(s) 20-23**) and when at least one computer that stores a copy of the first system network object is not available to modify its copy, does not modify any copies of the first system network object (**¶0041 line(s) 7-17, 22-25, teach that the client waits before beginning modification till after the client**

**response to the request, inherently when the client is not available not updating/modifying any of the copies.).**

***Response to Arguments***

18. Applicant's arguments been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

19. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to La Juania N. Mouzon whose telephone number is 571-

Art Unit: 2153

270-3045. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00-5:00, 1st Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Glenton B. Burgess/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2153

LNM